

CONGAREE ELEMENTARY

1221 Ramblin Road
West Columbia, South Carolina 29172

GRADES 2-5 Elementary School

ENROLLMENT 354 Students

PRINCIPAL Gail C. Simmons 803-755-7430

SUPERINTENDENT Barry F. Bolen 803-739-8399

BOARD CHAIR Jerry S. Chitty 803-739-4708

THE STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA

ANNUAL SCHOOL REPORT CARD

2004

ABSOLUTE RATING:

GOOD

Absolute Ratings of Elementary Schools with Students like Ours

Excellent	Good	Average	Below Average	Unsatisfactory
2	45	54	3	0

IMPROVEMENT RATING:

AVERAGE

ADEQUATE YEARLY PROGRESS:

YES

This school met 21 out of 21 objectives. The objectives included performance and participation of students in various groups and student attendance rate.

SOUTH CAROLINA PERFORMANCE GOAL

By 2010, South Carolina's student achievement will be ranked in the top half of the states nationally. To achieve this goal, we must become one of the fastest improving systems in the country.

FOR MORE INFORMATION, VISIT WEBSITES AT:

WWW.MYSCSCHOOLS.COM

WWW.SCEOC.ORG

PERFORMANCE TRENDS OVER 4-YEAR PERIOD

	Absolute Rating	Improvement Rating	Adequate Yearly Progress
2001	Average	Below Average	N/A
2002	Good	Below Average	N/A
2003	Good	Below Average	Yes
2004	Good	Average	Yes

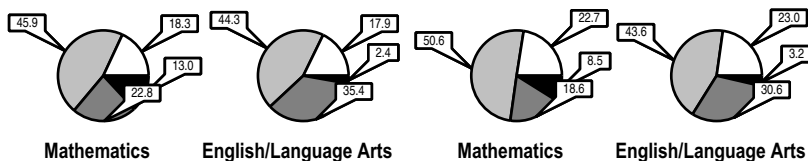
DEFINITIONS OF DISTRICT RATING TERMS





- Excellent - District performance substantially exceeds the standards for progress toward the 2010 SC Performance Goal
- Good - District performance exceeds the standards for progress toward the 2010 SC Performance Goal
- Average - District performance meets the standards for progress toward the 2010 SC Performance Goal
- Below Average - District is in jeopardy of not meeting the standards for progress toward the 2010 SC Performance Goal
- Unsatisfactory - District performance fails to meet the standards for progress toward the 2010 SC Performance Goal

PERCENT OF STUDENT RECORDS MATCHED FOR PURPOSES OF COMPUTING IMPROVEMENT RATING

Percent of students tested in 2003-04 whose 2002-03 test scores were located.

63.8%

PALMETTO ACHIEVEMENT CHALLENGE TESTS (PACT)**Our School****Elementary Schools with Students like Ours****Definition of Critical Terms**

	Advanced	Very high score; very well prepared to work at next grade level; exceeded expectations
	Proficient	Well prepared to work at next grade level; met expectations
	Basic	Met standards; minimally prepared, can go to next grade level
	Below Basic	Did not meet standards; must have an academic assistance plan; the local board policy determines progress to the next grade level

NOTE: Science and social studies are to be included in the 2005 school report card.

PACT PERFORMANCE BY GROUP

	<i>Enrollment 1st Day of Testing</i>	<i>% Tested</i>	<i>% Below Basic</i>	<i>% Basic</i>	<i>% Proficient</i>	<i>% Advanced</i>	<i>% Proficient and Advanced (adj.)</i>	<i>Performance Objective Met</i>	<i>Participation Objective Met</i>
English/Language Arts - State Performance Objective = 17.6%									
All Students	279	98.6	18.1	44.4	35.1	2.4	51.6	Yes	Yes
Gender									
Male	140	97.9	21.3	44.3	32.8	1.6	47.5		
Female	139	99.3	15.1	44.4	37.3	3.2	55.6		
Racial/Ethnic Group									
White	212	99.5	11.9	46.4	38.7	3.1	57.7	Yes	Yes
African-American	55	94.6	46.8	34.0	19.1	0.0	25.5	Yes	Yes
Asian/Pacific Islanders	4	I/S	I/S	I/S	I/S	I/S	I/S	I/S	I/S
Hispanic	8	I/S	I/S	I/S	I/S	I/S	I/S	I/S	I/S
American Indian/Alaskan	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	I/S	I/S
Disability Status									
Not disabled	198	100.0	12.4	43.5	40.7	3.4	62.1		
Disabled	81	95.1	32.4	46.5	21.1	0.0	25.4	Yes	Yes
Migrant Status									
Migrant	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A		
Non-migrant	279	98.6	18.1	44.4	35.1	2.4	51.6		
English Proficiency									
Limited English Proficient	4	I/S	I/S	I/S	I/S	I/S	I/S	I/S	I/S
Non-Limited English Proficient	275	98.6	18.2	44.1	35.2	2.4	51.4		
Socio-Economic Status									
Subsidized meals	179	98.9	21.8	44.9	32.1	1.3	46.2	Yes	Yes
Full-pay meals	100	98.0	12.0	43.5	40.2	4.3	60.9		

Mathematics - State Performance Objective = 15.5%									
All Students	279	98.9	18.1	46.2	22.5	13.3	51.0	Yes	Yes
Gender									
Male	140	98.6	17.9	48.0	18.7	15.4	52.8		
Female	139	99.3	18.3	44.4	26.2	11.1	49.2		
Racial/Ethnic Group									
White	212	100.0	13.8	45.6	24.1	16.4	57.9	Yes	Yes
African-American	55	94.6	36.2	51.1	12.8	0.0	19.1	Yes	Yes
Asian/Pacific Islander	4	I/S	I/S	I/S	I/S	I/S	I/S	I/S	I/S
Hispanic	8	I/S	I/S	I/S	I/S	I/S	I/S	I/S	I/S
American Indian/Alaskan	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	I/S	I/S
Disability Status									
Not disabled	198	100.0	12.4	43.5	26.6	17.5	61.6		
Disabled	81	96.3	31.9	52.8	12.5	2.8	25.0	Yes	Yes
Migrant Status									
Migrant	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A		
Non-migrant	279	98.9	18.1	46.2	22.5	13.3	51.0		
English Proficiency									
Limited English Proficient	4	I/S	I/S	I/S	I/S	I/S	I/S	I/S	I/S
Non-Limited English Proficient	275	98.9	18.1	46.4	22.6	12.9	50.8		
Socio-Economic Status									
Subsidized meals	179	98.9	24.4	44.2	19.2	12.2	41.7	Yes	Yes
Full-pay meals	100	99.0	7.5	49.5	28.0	15.1	66.7		

DEFINITION OF ADEQUATE YEARLY PROGRESS

As required by the United States Department of Education, adequate yearly progress specifies that the statewide target is met for All Students and for the following subgroups: Racial/Ethnic, Subsidized Meals, Disability, and Limited English Proficiency.

Abbreviations for Missing Data

N/A Not Applicable N/AV Not Available N/C Not Collected N/R Not Reported I/S Insufficient Sample

PACT PERFORMANCE BY GRADE LEVEL

		<i>Enrollment 1st Day of Testing</i>	<i>% Tested</i>	<i>% Below Basic</i>	<i>% Basic</i>	<i>% Proficient</i>	<i>% Advanced</i>	<i>% Proficient and Advanced</i>
English/Language Arts								
2003	Grade 3	94	100.0	24.4	35.4	39.0	1.2	40.2
	Grade 4	87	98.9	24.1	35.4	38.0	2.5	40.5
	Grade 5	93	100.0	27.8	58.2	13.9	N/A	13.9
	Grade 6	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
	Grade 7	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
	Grade 8	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
2004	Grade 3	92	98.9	19.3	36.4	39.8	4.5	44.3
	Grade 4	91	98.9	18.8	51.8	28.2	1.2	29.4
	Grade 5	96	97.9	18.1	52.1	28.7	1.1	29.8
	Grade 6	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
	Grade 7	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
	Grade 8	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Mathematics								
2003	Grade 3	94	100.0	12.3	63.0	14.8	9.9	24.7
	Grade 4	87	100.0	13.8	43.8	23.8	18.8	42.5
	Grade 5	93	100.0	15.2	44.3	26.6	13.9	40.5
	Grade 6	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
	Grade 7	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
	Grade 8	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
2004	Grade 3	92	100.0	16.9	55.1	23.6	4.5	28.1
	Grade 4	91	98.9	15.3	57.6	14.1	12.9	27.1
	Grade 5	96	97.9	25.5	30.9	24.5	19.1	43.6
	Grade 6	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
	Grade 7	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
	Grade 8	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A

Abbreviations for Missing Data

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SCHOOL PROFILE

	Our School	Change from Last Year	Elementary Schools with Students Like Ours	Median Elementary School
Students (n= 354)				
First graders who attended full-day kindergarten	N/R	N/C	100.0%	100.0%
Retention rate	1.1%	No change	3.2%	2.7%
Attendance rate	96.3%	Up from 95.6%	96.2%	96.4%
Students with disabilities other than speech taking PACT (ELA) off grade level	8.4%		5.1%	4.6%
Students with disabilities other than speech taking PACT (Math) off grade level	8.3%		3.8%	3.5%
Eligible for gifted and talented	17.9%	Up from 16.0%	12.3%	13.5%
On academic plans	N/AV	N/AV	N/A	N/AV
On academic probation	N/AV	N/AV	N/A	N/AV
With disabilities other than speech	20.2%	Up from 15.6%	9.5%	8.2%
Older than usual for grade	0.0%	N/A	1.2%	0.9%
Out-of-school suspensions or expulsions for violent &/or criminal offenses	0.0%	No change	0.0%	0.0%

Teachers (n= 28)				
Teachers with advanced degrees	67.9%	Up from 60.0%	48.6%	51.4%
Continuing contract teachers	96.4%	Down from 100.0%	87.5%	87.5%
Highly qualified teachers**	94.7%	N/A	95.8%	95.0%
Teachers with emergency or provisional certificates	0.0%		0.0%	0.0%
Teachers returning from previous year	75.2%	Down from 76.1%	86.2%	86.7%
Teacher attendance rate	94.5%	Down from 95.2%	94.5%	94.9%
Average teacher salary	\$43,485	Up 5.2%	\$40,082	\$40,760
Prof. development days/teacher	13.4 days	Down from 15.0 days	13.0 days	12.4 days

School				
Principal's years at school	4.0	Up from 3.0	3.0	4.0
Student-teacher ratio in core subjects	17.3 to 1	Up from 16.1 to 1	18.8 to 1	18.9 to 1
Prime instructional time	90.1%	Down from 90.2%	89.4%	90.0%
Dollars spent per pupil*	\$6,826	Up 13.0%	\$5,818	\$6,044
Percent of expenditures for teacher salaries*	66.0%	Up from 62.1%	66.0%	65.9%
Opportunities in the arts	Good	No change	Good	Good
Parents attending conferences	97.1%	Up from 91.8%	99.0%	99.0%
SACS accreditation	Yes	No change	Yes	Yes
Character development program	Excellent	N/A	Good	Good

* Prior year audited financial data are reported.

	Our District	State
Highly qualified teachers in low poverty schools**	89.8%	92.0%
Highly qualified teachers in high poverty schools**	N/A	91.1%
	State Objective	Met State Objective
Highly qualified teachers in this school**	65.0%	Yes
Student attendance in this school	95.3%	Yes

**NOTE: The verification process was not completed for the year reported; therefore the count of highly qualified teachers may not be accurate.

REPORT OF PRINCIPAL AND SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT COUNCIL

Our motto at Congaree Elementary, "Character and Excellence in Our School," describes our attitude towards our students. We are committed to ensuring that all students receive a quality education in a positive, safe, and happy environment.

We integrated character instruction throughout our curriculum. Service learning projects included a canned food drive for Harvest Hope Food Bank, and raising \$2,555 for Jump Rope For Heart. Students donated \$469 to "Coins For A Cure" for the Leukemia Society and our staff donated an additional \$342 to the Leukemia Society.

Our theme for this year was "Achievement For All". Excellence began in the classroom, and our teachers continued to focus on academic improvement. Congaree proudly met 100% of our federal objectives to be recognized for Adequate Yearly Progress. We currently have four teachers who are Nationally Board Certified. Five teachers have been trained at Roper Mountain Science Center, one teacher served as a SC Aquarium Leadership Partner, and one teacher received an SCRI Grant. Mrs. Linda Michalski was selected by her peers as our Teacher of the Year and Mrs. Linda Vallejo was our Staff Member of the Year. Our faculty participated for the second year in the SDE Curriculum Calibration study to assist in improving instruction. We maintained an "All Clear" rating from the SDE and are fully accredited with the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools. We have a full time guidance counselor, nurse, and a school-based mental health counselor at Congaree.

Our student achievement was enhanced through parent, teacher, and community participation. Parents and students were invited to "Meet and Greet" teachers prior to the opening of school. Back to School Nights, Grandparents' Week, Field Day and picnic, May Fest, parenting classes, and our annual Author's Tea were examples of activities for family involvement. We are proud that one student won first place in the Invention Convention at EdVenture Children's Museum. Nine students were semi-finalists in a State Fair Writing Contest. Beautiful student art was displayed at the SC State Fair for everyone to enjoy. Our quarterly ROPES celebrations recognized over half of our students for academic effort, success, and attendance.

We are grateful to our SIC and PTO. They are the driving partners behind our success. Both organizations worked diligently to provide volunteers and funding for school events. Our SIC again sponsored a Report Card Forum for the community. The PTO presented a program on Gang Awareness in our county. Our numerous parent and community volunteers were recognized at an annual breakfast this spring.

We are committed to making Congaree Elementary a safe environment for our students. This year, our front entrance was secured with an additional set of doors which directed all visitors through the office. Our on-street parking was eliminated with the addition of a new visitor parking lot at the front of our school. A new covered walkway was added at our entrance. We work hard to make Congaree Elementary a safe community school where learning can be fun and challenging. We strive to show that "At Congaree, Our Character Always Counts".

Gail C. Simmons, Principal

Gene Henderson, SIC Chairman

EVALUATIONS BY TEACHERS, STUDENTS, AND PARENTS

	Teachers	Students*	Parents*
Number of surveys returned	29	74	56
Percent satisfied with learning environment	100.0%	87.7%	87.5%
Percent satisfied with social and physical environment	100.0%	87.8%	83.6%
Percent satisfied with home-school relations	100.0%	94.6%	71.4%

*Only students at the highest elementary school grade level at this school and their parents were included.